FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MAY 1986

Syria

The Foreign Ministry informed the British ambassador 11 May of Syria's decision to "withdraw" three British diplomats from Syria in response to Britain's decision to "withdraw" three Syrian diplomats from London, Damascus radio reported. The radio said the Syrians were being expelled from London "without any objective justification" and despite the fact that the Syrian Embassy had agreed to allow the diplomats to be questioned by British police in the Syrian Embassy building as Syria is "firmly convinced" that its diplomats are innocent of charges against them. In a related commentary cited by SANA, *TISHRIN* viewed Britain's deportation of the three Syrian diplomats as part of a U.S.-led "campaign" against the Arab nation under the "pretext" of combating terrorism. The British Foreign Office, however, stated that the three Syrians had to be expelled because Syria's unwillingness to waive their diplomatic immunity would have prevented a full investigation of the charges against them, according to PRESS ASSOCIATION, which subsequently cited the Foreign Office's condemnation of Syria's "unjustified and regrettable" tit-for-tat expulsions from Damascus.

In Israel, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told the Cabinet 11 May that Israel will do everything in its power to prevent a war with Syria, but he said the world must do everything to put an end to Syria's involvement in international terrorism. In remarks broadcast by IDF radio, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said Israel has information that Syria's decision to perpetrate a terrorist act against an El Al plane was not made at a low level, but was "worked out and implemented under the responsibility of an authoritative Syrian body." However, Rabin stressed Israel's intention to prevent and deter any military confrontation with Syria, and *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported earlier that Israel has asked the United States to reassure the Syrians that Israel has no military intentions against them.

Nevertheless, a 10 May Damascus radio commentary warned of "current Israeli military preparations" near the Israeli-syrian contact lines. As for Syria's military capability, the UAE paper *AL-ITTIHAD reported 12 May that the Soviet Union has* agreed to supply Syria with MiG-29 and MiG-31 aircraft, according to WAKH. President Hafiz al-Asad asked for MiG-31's during a "secret visit" to Moscow in February, the report said, and the Soviet Union had already agreed to deliver MiG-29's this year.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman reported 9 May on a "wide-scale" Iraqi offensive inside Iran in the East Maysan sector that succeeded in capturing an approximately 100 square km area, according to INA, while an Iraqi military source told INA 10 May that an Iranian counterattack in the same area was repulsed. On the other hand, a military report cited by Tehran radio claimed that over 3,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded 9-10 May in the Faqqeh sector in a failed Iraqi offensive, claiming that over 200 Iraqi tanks, personnel carriers, and other vehicles were destroyed. Iranian air strikes over that sector were reported over the weekend by IRNA and Tehran radio.

In other action, at least 100 casualties were inflicted upon Iraqi forces in the southern Majnun Island and in Hawr al-Huwayzah, according to a 9 May military report cited by IRNA. On Iraq's part, a military source informed INA that the V Army Corps launched an offensive in the northern sector 10 May resulting in the capture of several traverses and vantage points, and "massive" Iranian losses.

As for Iraqi air activity, Iraqi military statements cited by INA announced fresh raids against Khark Island and a "large maritime target" in the Gulf 12 May. An 11 May communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported Iraqi air strikes on Iran's Agha Jari and Marun oil fields, while the 9 May communique claimed the destruction of 5 Iranian bridges and an Iranian command center. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA asserted that an Iraqi plane was downed over the Gulf 11 May, but an Iraqi military spokesman termed this claim "sheer lies" in a statement to INA the same day.

Libya

Relations With Spain — The Libyan People's Bureau in Madrid issued a communique 9 May denying the Spanish Government's accusations that the bureau's consul general has been in contact with an extreme right-wing Spanish officer, Madrid radio reported. The accusations against the Libyan diplomat, who was expelled from Spain, were viewed by the Bureau as part of the EEC's "aggressive" measures against Libya. However, a Spanish Government spokesman cited by the radio said the consul general was involved in activities carried out by a Spanish colonel aimed at "turning back the political clock" in Spain. The colonel, who is now under arrest, also visited Tripoli to seek financial help from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the spokesman said. However, the radio subsequently cited the Spanish foreign minister's view that the expelled consul general's involvement with the Spanish extreme rightists is "completely isolated" and that Spain's accusations are not levelled directly against the Libyan Government.

Political/Economic Situation — An 11 May JANA commentary strongly denied a recent report by the Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD on the Libyan power structure. Noting the paper's* claim that the Revolution Command Council is likely to be expanded in accordance with an increase in the power of the military at the expense of the revolutionary committees, JANA maintained that such "false stories" are the result of the "sick imagination" of *AL-ITTIHAD*'s correspondent, who is one of those journalists who use their job as a "cover-up for their work for the CIA." As for the economic situation, a Libyan official stated during a visit to Tehran that the departure of U.S. oil

companies from Libya would have "no effect whatsoever" on Libyan oil operations, IRNA reported. In Kuwait, a senior Libyan oil official likewise maintained that Libya will have "no problem" if the U.S. companies pull out, KUNA noted.

Reaction to Al-Qadhdhafi Speech — Responding to the threats against Egypt contained in Col al-Qadhdhafi's 8 May speech, a 10 May Cairo radio commentary declared that Al-Qadhdhafi's "babble" will fail to disturb Egypt, which views his statements as "mere bluster." The Italian prime minister condemned Al-Qadhdhafi's "fanatical language" against Italy in remarks reported by Rome radio.

Lebanon

Extremist Islamic organizations have moved some of their foreign hostages to locations outside Ba'labakk, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed 11 May. Beirut's *AL-SAFIR* reported the previous day that sources close to Syria and Iran have spoken of an "imminent" solution to the hostages problem, adding that some sources have said an agreement has been reached over the French hostages, with only the implementation and timing still to be settled.

In another development, Voice of Lebanon radio announced that Halat Airport was again shelled from the north when President Amin al-Jumayyil returned from his trip to Tunisia 9 May. An Army Command statement warned of the consequences of such attacks, the radio noted, and former President Camille Sham'un again blamed the Syrians for the shelling. The other main Christian radio, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, reported that the Syrians have taken tough measures against the Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli on account of the latter's alleged links with the Muslim Brotherhood. In a subsequent development, the Voice of Lebanon reported that a "catastrophe" was narrowly averted in East Beirut 12 May when a car-bomb was found and defused.

Jordanian-Egyptian Talks

King Husayn met with President Husni Mubarak in Aqaba 11 May for talks on bilateral relations and current international and regional issues, according to Amman television. After the two rounds of talks, Mubarak praised Husayn as a "brother," MENA noted, while the Jordanian king said the discussions had covered issues of concern to all Arabs.

Qatar-Bahrain

Qatari aircraft and naval vessels have violated Bahrain's airspace and waters in recent days, Manama's *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported 12 May, noting that these incidents came amid fresh reports that Qatar will shortly release the foreign workers it captured on Fasht al-Dibal island.

Sudan

Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the southern political parties have reached an "acceptable formula" on their representation in the new government, according to an Al-Ummah National Party official cited by SUNA 10 May. Southern representation in the government will be in accordance with the size of the southern population as defined in the latest census, the agency noted in a related report on the agreement.

DRA

AFP reported a series of demonstrations in Kabul "last week" against PDPA General Secretary Najibullah, according to "diplomatic sources" in Islamabad. The sources, who admitted not all of the reports could be verified, said that student demonstrators chanted slogans against Najibullah and in favor of Revolutionary Council President Babrak Karmal. Nevertheless, both Najibullah and Karmal attended a function commemorating the Soviet Army's defeat of Germany in World War II, according to BAKHTAR.

As for the "counterrevolutionaries," 1,800 members of the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami and the Nejat-e Mil-e bands "joined" the state in Faryab Province, Kabul radio reported, adding that 14 other members of the former band also "joined" the state security forces in Bagram District. In another report on rebel defections, the radio stated that 23 Enqelab-e Eslami members and 8 Hezb-e Eslami members recently "joined" the security forces in Farah Province. Kabul radio also reported that 42 rebels of Enqelab-e Eslami were captured in Balkh Province, according to a security forces source.

DRA-Pakistan

A spokesman of the Pakistani delegation at the talks with the DRA in Geneva reported 9 May on "marginal progress on certain minor issues," according to Karachi radio, but he claimed that Afghanistan's "approach" to the talks was neither positive nor flexible.

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Further on Protest Lodged With Iran on Herat Attack

LD110645 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0447 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 10 BAKHTAR — With the help of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Afghan counter-revolution launched an attack on the frontier militia of Kazi Village of Kohsan District in Herat Province, bordering Iran. As a result of this attack 12 inhabitants of that village were martyred, two persons injured another one was taken prisoner.

The Government of the DRA has vehemently condemned this action of the Iranian side and asked them to immediately stop committing such acts which are totally contrary to the accepted international norms and good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

The Government of the DRA has also warned the Iranian authorities that in case of repetition of such encroachments it will be left with no other alternative except to defend its national sovereignty, territorial integrity and the rights of its people by use of force. The Iranian Government has also been asked to compensate the losses inflicted both in man and material by the attackers.

AFP Reports Anti-Najibullah Demonstrations

BK111656 Hong Kong AFP in English 1646 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 11 (AFP) — Kabul students held a series of demonstrations last week against the new Afghan Communist Party leader, Major-General Najibullah, diplomatic sources said here Sunday. According to the sources, who stressed that some reports could not be verified, there were four demonstrations at Kabul schools and colleges between May 4 and 8. They did not know the numbers involved.

Mr. Najibullah on May 4 took over as Afghan Communist Party general secretary from Babrak Karmal, who remains president.

At a demonstration on May 8 at Malalay Secondary School, police were said to have clashed with students after slogans were chanted against Mr. Najibullah and the Soviet Union and in favour of Mr. Karmal, the sources said. Guerrilla sources said they had reports of the anti-Najibullah and anti-Soviet demonstration on May 8. They said they were not involved in the demonstrations, which they attributed to rivalry in the pro-Soviet Afghan party between the Khalo and Parcham factions. Other sources said there had been a demonstration on May 5 at Jalalabad in eastern Afghanistan.

Najibullah Addresses Tribal Chiefs 7 May

LD102219 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1630 GMT 8 May 86

[Excerpts] Comrade Najibullah, PDPA Central Committee general secretary, met the chiefs and representatives of the independent tribes in the Store Palace yesterday at 0930. The 400 chiefs first presented Comrade Najibullah with bunches of flowers and congratulated him on his election as PDPA Central Committee general sedretary. The meeting began after Mowlawi Habibollah read a few verses from the Holy Koran. Comrade Najib, after welcoming the meeting's participants, said:

[Begin Najibullah recording] Esteemed chiefs, elders, and dear youth: May God's peace and blessing be upon you. As you are aware, an extended Central Committee session was held 4 May at which Comrade Babrak Karmal's proposal regarding his resignation from his duty as PDPA general secretary was discussed and considered in a free and democratic atmosphere. They [all nationalities] must have a part in the political sovereignty and government, and on that basis (?the issue of) broadening the Revolutionary Council was raised and 79 persons and representatives of various classes and strata, middle-class land owners, national entrepreneurs, national traders, industrial entrepreneurs, clergy, and ulema. This course and process will forge ahead further. It is possible for all classes and strata not to join our PDPA; they can unite with us in one front of struggle. [sentence as heard]

We believe that on this path, policy, and through jirgas and meetings, and as a result of political work, daily peace and security will be strengthened. This peace and security is increasingly being strengthened and our political and governmental sovereignty is also being broadened. You are aware that we are currently engaged in a war against imperialism, regional reaction, the Pakistani, militarists, Iranian reactionaries, and Chinese hegemonists. Approximately 64 percent of party comrades have taken arms and weapons in hand and engaged the enemy in battle. Our party is a combatant and fighting party and its duties are enormous. We must have an equipped and strong force in order to crush the counterrevolutionaries and to prevent tomorrow's aggression and intervention by Iran and Pakistan. [applause] [passage indistinct]

Our border should be firmly closed in such a way as to be open to our friends and closed to our enemies' aggression and intervention. [applause] Undoubtedly we can close our [borders] using the military border forces but as history and our fathers and ancestors traditions and customs have shown, we close the borders permanently with your bravery, by your efforts and honor and pride [words indistinct]. In addition to strengthening the border forces, we must work, with much respect and honor, with our powerful and proud tribal chiefs, elements, clans, and tribes. [applause] [Words indistinct] our armed, forces, border forces, your militia forces, and your other tribal assets — pride and honor — can close our border from this side and the other side before the enemy [words indistinct]. [applause]

As you can see, heavy duties lie before the party as well as before the government. As Comrade Karmal's health has not been good for a long time, and he himself proposed to be relieved from one post, and he continues his duty in the other post. [sentence as heard] You are, as our leaders, honored and respected elders. We have been brought up under your supervision. We have learned from you pride, courage, and bravery [words indistinct]. If one (?asks me) which line do I follow? [sentence as heard] We are following the same path which our party has followed for 21 years. [applause] We will follow this path and will accomplish our duties speedily [word indistinct] in accordance with the particular circumstances of the present time and conditions and will forge ahead. [applause]

Let us organize ourselves in accordance with the resolution of the independent tribes' jirga; bring unity in programs; form your tribal councils and elect leadership organs to these councils; form a united council with the leadership of every council [as heard]; make [word indistinct] people to stand behind these councils; invite to them ulema, clergy, and leaders of tribes; form a joint union so that we can hold a jirga there with our fugitives and inform them that the homeland is (?waiting) for them. [passage indistinct] Convene a jirga and send them back to their homeland, and for those really hostile to the homeland, our and your regions and soil, (?force) is a reply to them; you have rifles in your hands. [remainder of address indistinct] [end recording]

Assured of Tribes 'Firm Support'
LD102223 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 8, BAKHTAR — "We are moving forward for building a prosperous and prideful Afghanistan in which all the people would live in an atmosphere of sincere brotherhood." This was stated by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, addressing a meeting of free tribes elders here. Over 400 elders and representatives of twelve free tribes had participated at the meeting in which they extended on behalf of their tribes their heartfelt congratulations to Najibullah on his election to the post of the general secretary of the PDPA CC.

Dwelling on the consolidation of the people's sovereignty in the DRA, he added that in view of the 10-point theses and decision of the special session of revolutionary council all the stratas, ethnic groups, tribes and nationalities have taken part in the political power. Talking about the need for ensuring a nation-wide peace and order in the country, general secretary of the PDPA CC threw light about the normalisation of the situation in revolutionary Afghanistan and the gaining of ever-greater national prestige for the DRA.

He reiterated the need for the ever-further consolidation of unshakable Afghan-Soviet friendship as an internationalist principle and expressed gratitude for the all-sided assistance of the Soviet Union, a great friend of the Afghan people, to Afghanistan. He stressed that the borders of the DRA will always be open to friends and will be closed to the enemies.

General Secretary of the PDPA CC Najibullah called upon the tribes to be alert in defending the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRA. The party and state of the DRA, Comrade Najibullah said, are faced with grave tasks to achieve and the Pushtun nationality as a big brother should bear a high sense of responsibility alongside other brother nationalities — Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, Turkmen, Baluchi, Nooristani and Pashai — for the fulfillment of these tasks.

Comrade Najibullah informed the audience about the proceedings of the 18th plenum of the PDPA CC held on May 4, in which the resignation of Comrade Babrak Karmal from the post of general secretary of the PDPA CC on health grounds was approved.

Later, a number of the heads and representatives of free tribes jirga on behalf of their tribes assured Comrade Najibullah of their firm support and pledged that they would fulfil their duties as a strong fortress with bravery toward their brother Afghanistan. At the conclusion, the speakers wished further successes for Comrade Najibullah in his new post as general secretary of the PDPA CC and health for Comrade Babrak Karmal.

Najibullah Speaks to Defense Ministry Meeting
LD111935 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, participated in a meeting this afternoon which assessed the operational and politico-combat education and training of the DRA Army. Comrade Najib was warmly welcomed by the DRA Armed Forces leadership at the DRA Defense Ministry. After inspecting the guard of honor, Comrade Najib went to the Defense Ministry conference hall where he was fervently welcomed by the commanders of the DRA Army units and their political heads, as well as other participants of the meeting.

The assessment meeting was held today at 0900 in the Defense Ministry conference hall. All political commanders and chiefs of the army units and companies attended. The meeting was opened with a short statement delivered by Major General Nazar Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of defense.

There was then a speech by Major General Shah Nawaz Tanay, chief of general staff, who shed light on the state of combat work and activity. The head of the Army's Department of Education and Training and Major General Muhammad Yasin Sadeqi, head of Army political affairs, spoke in turn about Army training and education and the enhancement of combat education and training; and political education and training of the units. Afterward, assistants to the minister of defense in technical and logistic affairs, and the commanders of ranks of the forces spoke on the improvement of work in strengthening combat capability and discipline. At the end of the meeting, Maj Gen Nazar Muhammad spoke in detail in the course of a comprehensive report about the strengthening of the forces' combat capability, the enhancement of efforts to realize the party aims and all the victories. The victories have been achieved in the defense of the values of the DRA state and the April revolution and in the strengthening of the peoples power. This is particularly true in Khowst district and its surrounding areas. Maj Gen Nazar Muhammad specified the Army's tasks toward maintain nation-wide peace and the construction of a new society in the country.

Finally, Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, assessed the meeting's work in a comprehensive address and spoke about strengthening the country's Armed Forces as well as strengthening discipline and supervision over the combat and political readiness of the Army. He drew the attention of the leadership and staff of the DRA Defense Ministry to their heavy tasks and asked all DRA Army Staff members, in strong belief in the final victory of the revolution, to utilize all

their energy in maintaining security and peaceful conditions in the country.

At the meeting's conclusion, Maj Gen Nazar Muhammad, on behalf of the army staff, assured Comrade Najib that the DRA Army, with all its ability, implements the demands of the Central Committee plenums.

Najibullah, Karmal Mark German WWII Defeat
LD101838 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 8, BAKHTAR — Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, Comrade Babrak Karmal, Politburo member and president of the Revolutionary Council and Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers participated at a function held on the 41st anniversary celebration of triumph over Hitlerite fascism at the headquarters of the Limited Contingents of the Soviet Union. Talking at the function, Babrak Karmal on behalf of the party, state and the people of the DRA expressed his gratitude on the timely assistance of the Soviet Armed Forces to the people of Afghanistan against the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism. The Afghan-Soviet friendship founded by Lenin the great will last for ever, said Babrak Karmal.

Najibullah Thanks Cuba's Castro for Greetings
LD110848 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] A message of thanks has been sent by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central committee, in reply to the congratulatory message from Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, which arrived in Kabul on the occasion of Comrade Najibullah's election to the post of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

In the message, Comrade Najibullah expressed his and the PDPA Central Committee's profound gratitude for the comradely congratulations and friendly words of comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, and for his expression of solidarity with the Afghan revolution and people. He also expressed his gratitude for the support of Cuba's Communist Party and the Republic of Cuba for the struggle of the brave and liberated people of Afghanistan against reactionary forces and imperialism and for building a new and just society. He expressed full confidence that the existing good, friendly relations between the parties, states, and our people would continue its evolutionary path, in the interest of two countries and for the consolidation of a future universal peace.

Leaders Greet Czechslovakia on Independence Day
LD101120 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Kabul, may 8, BAKHTAR — Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee (CC) of the Democratic Party of Afghanistan, (PDPA) Babrak Karmal, Politburo member of the CC PDPA, president of the Revolutionary Council, and president of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the CC, PDPA and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA have sent to prague a congratulatory message addressed to the leaders of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslvoakia on the occasion of 41st independence anniversary of that country.

The message has expressed confidence that the people of Czechoslovakia under the leadership of Czechoslovak Communist Party as well as the creative and valuable guidelines of party 7th congress would achieve great successes in social, economic fields and making progressive society.

The message pointed out that fruitful and fraternal close cooperation between parties, governments and people of the two countries will further strengthen in the interests of the people of the two countries as well as peace and security all over the world.

PDPA Leadership Greets Balkh Armed Forces
LD112152 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 May 86

[Excerpt] Good wishes from the party and state leadership, from Comrades Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council; and Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, were conveyed by Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee today to the commanders and political staff of the 18th Division, the air force brigade, and the border forces of Balkh Province, which were warmly welcomed.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Mazar-e Sharif city that Nur Ahmad Nur took part in a joint meeting of the commanders and political heads of the 18th Division, the air force brigade, and the border forces of Balkh Province which was held this afternoon at the 18th division club of Balkh Province in support of the decisions of the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum. In the course of explaining the historical importance of the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee plenums, Nur Ahmad Nur spoke in detail about the decisions of the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum and said:

Our party, the PDPA, which organizes (?millions) of people in the construction of our revolutionary country, has the ability, under the leadership of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee, to be transformed into a strong and unbreakable fortress.

At the end of his statement, Nur Ahmad Nur, expressed appreciation for the militant spirit of the men and officers of the 18th Division, the air force and the border forces of the Balkh province in defending the lofty aspirations of the April revolution and the crushing of the satanical nests of the counterrevolution, once again drew the attention of the participants to combat experience, to the observation of military discipline, to the expansion of the process of recruitment to the armed forces, and to the maintenance of nationwide peace in the country.

Gol Aqa Visits Herat Officials 10-11 May

LD112245 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 May 86

[Excerpt] Brigadier General Gol Aqa, vice-chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council participated in the meetings of Herat citizens, officials of the education and training department and in the meeting of the students of (?Sanayee) high school yesterday and today.

He spoke comprehensively on the decisions of the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum and about the law of local organs of state power and administration.

Continuing Reportage on Anti-Rebel Operations

Forces Capture Arms, Camels

LD101032 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Citing a spokesman of the security forces in Qandahar Province, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that following successful operations by the provincial security forces against an arms convoy of the enemy belonging to the Gulbuddin Islamic band they captured 50 missiles with a launcher unit, 80 82-mm artillery shells, 100 shells for recoilless rifles, 40 antitank rockets, a large amount of ammunition and five camels.

Operations Against Balkh Rebels

LD111729 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Quoting a source in the country's security forces, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations carried out in the areas around Chemtal and Sholgara, Balkh Province, 42 armed counterrevolutionary elements belonging to the Eslami band were captured and a criminal leader of the Eslami band, Sofi Rahim, was annihilated during the course of the operations.

31 Rebels Defect, Weapons Seized

LD112046 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] A group of 23 persons previously members of the Harak-e Enqelab-e Eslami band and a group of 8 persons, formerly members of the Gulbuddin band, have recently joined the security forces in the village of Garki district of Bala Boluk, Farah Province taking advantage of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decreee and the message and resolution of the Loya Jirga and High jIrga for Tribes. In regretting their past, they promised to organize in the tribal battalions and to defend the outcome of the April revolution.

In further successful operations by the country's security forces in the villages of [name indistinct] of Lowgar Province, 38 Egyptian and Chinese-made rocket launchers and 420 shells of assorted weapons have been seized by the country's security forces.

1800 Rebels Defect

LD112131 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] In line with the joining of the deceived compatriots, who as a result of hostile propaganda from counterrevolutionary elements and their lack of awareness of the truth of the April revolution cooperated with the criminal rebel bands, recently 1800 previously armed members of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami and Nejat-e Mil-e bands including their leaders, Kamaluddin, Haji Abdul Rashid, and Mullah Azim joined the state in Faryab Province. They pledged to stand with self-sacrifice for the defense of the homeland and revolution and for ensuring peace by organizing into tribal units.

According to another report, 14 previously armed members of the Eslami band have joined the security forces in Bagram district by taking advantage of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium amnesty decree. By regretting their past, they promised all-around cooperation and sacrifice in the defense of the outcome of the April revolution.

Further Reportage, Comment on National Elections

President Thanks People

BK091618 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 May 86

[Excerpt] President Ershad has said through the 7th May polls the people of the country have demonstrated unity and proved to the world that they want peace and discipline. Addressing a Juma [Friday prayer] congregation at the Babu Bazaar Mosque in Dhaka today, the president expressed his gratitude to Almighty Allah and thanked the people of the country for the successful holding of elections.

He said 10 crore people of the country can live in peace as taught by Islam. If we can maintain peace and discipline in all spheres of national life, we will surely march ahead to our cherished objective of building the country on a sound economic footing. He referred to the steps taken by his government for reflecting the ideals and values of Islam in all spheres of national life. The president said all his efforts are directed to improve the condition of the poor and distressed people.

100 Injured; Rigging Alleged

BK101313 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, the alleged rigging and widespread terrorism in Wednesday's parliamentary election has led to a wave resentment all over the country. For the last 2 days angry demonstrations, protest meetings and hartal [strike] have taken place in Narayanganj, Sirajganj, Rangpur, Bogra, Chandpur, Borisal and Chittagong Districts. Over 100 people are reported to have been injured in the different post election clashes between supporters of rival political parties.

The All India Radio Dhaka correspondent, Prabhakar Mishra, reports that the major opposition parties have expressed their strong protest against malpractices in the election. Those parties which did not take part in the polls fearing rigging have demanded the elections to be declared void and holding of fresh elections under a neutral government.

Results From 264 Constituencies

BK111613 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 86

[Excerpts] Complete unofficial results of 14 more constituencies have been received from the Election Commission. With these, the election commission has given complete unofficial results of 264 constituencies. The latest party position is: Jatiya Party, 132; Awami League, 70; Jami'at-i Islami, 10; independents, 27; Bangladesh Communist Party, 5; National Awami Party, 5; National Awami Party-Muzaffar, 2; Muslim League, 3; Bangladesh Workers Party, 2; Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Awami League, 3; Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-Shahjahan, 3; and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-Rob, 2.

According to the commission, reelection will now be held in 218 polling centers of 36 constituencies. Arrangements are being made to complete reelection in these constituencies by the 19th of this month.

Delhi on Release of Khaleda Zia

BK110319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] In the Bangladesh parliamentary elections, the pro-government Jatiya Party has further improved its position with the declaration of 31 more results last night. It got 101 seats out of 215 the results of which have been declared so far. The results of 85 seats are yet to come in. The Awami League-led 8-party alliance has got 77 seats of which the Awami League tally is 59 seats. All India Radio Dhaka correspondent Prabahakar Mishra reports that it will take some time for the announcement of all the results because there will be repoll in some centers where voting was suspended last Wednesday [7 May] because of disturbances.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party Leader, Begum Khaleda Zia, has been released from house arrest. She was detained for a poll boycott call in violation of the martial law regulation banning anti-election activities. Begum Zia told newsmen after her release that she does not accept Wednesday's poll as valid and insisted on fresh election under a neutral government. The leader of the Awami League, Sheikh Hasina Wajed, has called for a 6-hour general strike on next Wednesday [14 May] to protest against what she alleged, the election hijack by the government.

Further Details on Khaleda Zia

BK120601 Hong Kong AFP in English 0648 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Dhaka, May 12 (AFP) — Several leading figures in groups which had opposed Bangladesh's general election have been released from detention, official sources said here Monday. News of the releases came after the Election Commission had announced that the government Jatiya (National) Party was ahead in Wednesday's election, with 132 of the 300 seats according to official results, against 90 for the 15-party opposition alliance.

A seven-party opposition alliance led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) of Khaleda Zia had called for a boycott of the polls saying that they were a farce because they were taking place under martial law.

Five leading members of the seven-party alliance were released from Dhaka central jail late Sunday after having been held since April 30, official sources said here Monday. At least two local BNP leaders who were detained on the eve of Wednesday's poll were also released in the port city of Chittagong, press reports said Monday.

Begum Zia was also allowed to leave her home late Saturday after being placed under house arrest last Monday. But BNP

sources said that some of their leaders were still behind bars and faced charges for opposing the election.

The authorities had issued a martial law regulation banning all anti-election activities before the polls.

Mirza Golam Hafiz, a senior vice-chairman of the BNP and a former speaker of Parliament, who was one of the five anti-election leaders released Sunday, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he did not know how many opposition leaders were still in detention.

The 15-party alliance led by the Awami League party had agreed to take part in the polls after concessions were offered by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad. But it joined an independent watchdog body and foreign observers in charging that the Jatiya Party was guilty of widespread poll rigging and violence to ensure victory. The independent watchdog body, the People's Commission, also accused the Election Commission of "deliberately ignoring the law and procedure of the election."

The Election Commission postponed counting for more than 40 hours on friday and subsequently began releasing results in blocks. It had announced that new polls would be held in 21 constituencies at polling centres where the elections had been "disturbed," but on Sunday the figure rose to 36.

The re-polling is due to be completed by next Monday.

Tribal Insurgents Attack Across Indian Border

BK110558 Hong Kong AFP in English 0549 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Dhaka, May 11 (AFP) — Tribal insurgents in Bangladesh's southeastern Chittagong hill tracts have killed a woman and kidnapped 30 people, press reports said here Sunday [11 May].

A woman was shot and killed and a man was injured when insurgents raided a village in Matiranga sub-district Saturday, *THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER* said quoting official sources in Chittagong. The members of the outlawed Shanti Bahini group had crossed the border from India, it quoted the officials as saying.

The tribal insurgents had also kidnapped 30 people, mostly schoolteachers and local leaders, in different areas of the hill tracts between last Sunday and Thursday, the report added.

The deputy commissioner (administrative chief) for the Khagrachari Region had sent a telegram to the district magistrate across the border in the Indian District of southern Tripura, demanding 200,000 U.S. dollars in compensation for an alleged "massacre" of people in several Bangladesh villages April 29 carried out by Shanti Bahini insurgents, press reports said.

Bangladesh alleges that the outlawed insurgents have been given sanctuary in the Indian state of Tripura.

Shanti Bahini insurgents have been active in the rugged jungle districts of the hill tracts since the early 1970's. They are demanding greater autonomy for their home region.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Special Envoy Arrives in Dhaka

BK120155 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The special envoy of Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhdhafi has arrived in Dhaka on a 3-day visit. The envoy, Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-Ubaydi, a former prime minister of Libya, is leading 3-member delegation of his country. Mr al-Ubaydi is the secretary general of the Libyan Arab Solidarity [words indistinct].

Gandhi Reshuffles Cabinet 12 May

BK120600 Hong Kong AFP in English 0551 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] New Delhi, May 12 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Monday carried out a government reshuffle including the appointment of a new foreign minister and a new interior minister, press reports said here.

Shiv Shankar, 57, replaced Bali Ram Bhagat as foreign minister and a Sikh, Buta Singh, took over as interior minister, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) and the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) said.

Mr. Gandhi also named about a dozen junior ministers in his fifth reshuffle since he succeeded his mother Indira Gandhi as premier after her assassination in October 1984.

Mr. Shankar has been trade minister since January and will continue to hold the trade porfolio as well as the Foreign Ministry post. A lawyer, he was minister for energy and oil under Mrs. Gandhi from 1980 to 1984.

The appointment of Mr. Singh as interior minister was seen by observers here as a new attempt by Mr. Gandhi to resolve the problem of Sikh militants waging a frequently bloody campaign for greater autonomy for the Sikh-dominated northern state of Punjab. Mr. Singh was previously agriculture minister.

The Interior Ministry has been held by Narasimha Rao since early this year.

The swearing-in of the new cabinet members, where full details of the reshuffle are expected to become clear, will take place later Monday, informed sources said here.

Further Details

BK120754 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] The union Council of Ministers has been expanded with the appointment of two cabinet ministers, nine ministers of state and one deputy minister. There has also been a reshuffle of portfolios. Mr Buta is the new home minister. Mr Shiv Shankar takes over external affairs with the additional charge of commerce. Mr B.R. Bhzgat has been dropped.

The new cabinet ministers are Mr G.S. Dhillon, former speaker of the Lok Sabha and Mr Mufti Mohammad Sayid, president of Jammu and Kashmir State Congress-I. Mr Dhillon gets the portfolio of agriculture and rural development and Mufti Mohammad Sayid tourism. The parliamentary affairs minister, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, who was looking after tourism, also will now have additional charge of food and civil supplies.

The new ministers of state and their portfolios are: Mr Eduardo Faleiro, external affairs; Mr Brahma Dutt, commerce; Mr Ramanand Yadav, rural development; Mrs Krishna Shahi, education and culture; Mr B.K. Ghadavi, expenditure; Mrs Sheila Dixit, parliamentary affairs; Mr Santosh Mohan Dev, tourism; Mr K.K. Tiwari, public enterprises in the Ministry of Industry; Miss Saroj Khaparde, health.

The portfolios of two ministers of state have been changed. Mrs Sushila Rohatagi will now be minister of state for power in the Ministry of Energy. Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad will be minister of state in the Home Ministry in charge of the Department of States. The new deputy minister is Mr Biren Singh Engti who will be attached to the Department of Personnel.

The new members of the Council of Ministers were sworn in at a ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhawan [President's House] this morning. The oath of office and secrecy was administered by the President Giani Zail Singh. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, attended the ceremony along with his cabinet colleagues.

Gandhi on Kashmir, Sri Lanka

BK120919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpts] The union Council of Ministers has been expanded with the induction of two cabinet ministers, nine ministers of state, and one deputy minister. After the swearing in ceremony, newsmen asked Mr Gandhi about the demands for the dissolution of the Jammu and Kashmir assembly. He said there are 3 more years for the assembly's term to end. When a correspondent referred to the reported move by 33 members of legislative assembly of the state to resign, the prime minister replied that by-elections can be held in these constituencies. He, however, added that it is for the governor to make a recommendation.

About the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, Mr Gandhi said there has been some progress after the Colombo visit of the Chidambaram delegation. Its reports is being studied. Mr gandhi was asked to comment on reports that the Sri Lankan president has asked the Western countries for arms and money to fight the Tamil militants. He said he has not seen the text of what Mr Jayewardene has said in his intervew to a British newspaper.

About his forthcoming visit to African countries, the prime minister said the objective was to know the people and the problems of these countries. During his visit he will reiterate India's support to the people of South Africa.

Gandhi Views Safety Standards in Nuclear Reactors

BK091359 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said there is no scope for accidents in the nuclear power plants in the country because of the inbuilt safety features. Addressing the Consultative Committee of members of parliament of his ministry in New Delhi today, he said Indian nuclear reactors are being operated in accordance with internationally accepted safety standards. Allaying the fears of the members that a nuclear power station could explode like a bomb, the prime minister said this is a totally wrong perception since it is not physically possible for the fuel in a reactor to agglomerate in a manner that it could set off an uncontrolled nuclear chain reaction.

The members were informed that the total financial outlay of the nuclear power program is about 140,000 million rupees based on the 1983 price level. The members were informed that today the country's nuclear power program is earning between 1,500 and 2,000 million rupees a year from the sale of electricity. They were also told that availability of heavy water will not be a constraint on the nuclear power program. There are at present five heavy water plants in the country. Taking into account the profile for a 10,000 megawatt nuclear power program, three more heavy water plants are visualized. The first of these at Hazira is expected to be completed in 1991.

The members were also informed that the currently known uranium reserves of the country could support the pressurized heavy water reactor program of about 10,000 megawatt for a designed life of 30 years.

Gandhi Interviewed on Terrorism, Pakistan

NC100737 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Cairo, 9 May (MENA) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has stressed tha Egyptian-Indian relations are now proceeding along the correct course. He said these relations must be strengthened in all fields, particularly the economic ones.

Asked about his views on how to confront international terrorism, the Indian leader said in an interview to be carried by *AL-AHRAM* tomorrow, Saturday, that the problem must be faced with a single, not a double standard. We should not sponsor and finance terrorism in one place and then complain of its presence in another. He stressed that terrorism must be dealt with through a unified stand and in an integrated form that will help develop a world-wide security system. He warned that the international community will face a disaster with unforeseeable consequences if the world is not safe from terrorism.

The Indian prime minister stressed that the real problem in the Middle East is to get at the roots of the crisis. He added that the problem will continue as long as Palestinian rights are not secured and a homeland not provided.

Speaking on the Gulf war, Rajiv Gandhi said it is difficult to predict when it will end. He pointed out that all mediation efforts to end the war have failed and that the two warring countries, Iran and Iraq, have not yet decided on their own to end it.

Assessing the positive aspects of the Nonaligned Movement, which India is currently chairing, Gandhi said that its role has grown but the most severe setback it has had to face was probably the failure of its attempts to resolve the Gulf war.

Regarding India's foreign policy, particularly toward the two great powers, Gandhi said that he is continuing to follow the policy laid down by his late mother, Indira Gandhi. He added that he has achieved more progress in his country's relations with the United States, though some problems have recently emerged as a result of the U.S. raid on Libya.

Referring to the violence in the Indian state of Punjab, Gandhi said that it is a rebellion by a group of extremist Sikhs who have no influence.

The Indian prime minister also spoke of his country's relations with Pakistan. He said that since he came to power in January 1985, relations have begun to get better. He noted that a plan to improve these relations was drawn up during the Pakistani president's visit to India last December. He expressed regret that Pakistan has chosen not to move with the same speed that it did when the plan was in the drafting stage. He added that India is completely willing if Pakistan wants to draw a time table for the plan or to slow it down for a while. He added that he postponed his scheduled visit to Pakistan because of the delay in the normalization of relations and hence the lack of a suitable atmosphere for the visit.

Talks on Siachen Glacier Proposed for Next Month

BK111350 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] India has proposed that the next round of talks with Pakistan on the Siachen Glacier will be held next month. Official sources today denied report that India had called off the talks. The first round of talks on the situation in Siachen Glacier was held in Islamabad in January.

Continuing Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab

Security in Jammu Tightened

BK120334 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Security arrangements in Jammu have been intensified in view of the increasing terrorist activities in Punjab. Intensive checking at the entry points at Lakhanpur and elsewhere in Jammu city has been introduced to avert infiltration. Security drop gates have been built at various strategic points for use in case of emergency.

Four extremists attacked a recruiting team of the Border Security Force near Pathankot on Saturday. Two of them were apprehended after an exchange of fire. One .32 bore revolver with three live cartidges was recovered from them. The interrogation is on.

Mixed Reaction to Akali Dal Split

BK100110 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] The executive of the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee -- Sikh Temple Management Committee] met in Chandigarh today under the chairmanship of its president, Mr Kabul Singh, and passed a resolution stressing the need for unity in the Akali Dal.

The meeting condemned the attempt by some vested interests to divide the party. It also approved the action taken by the Akali

Dal president, Mr Barnala, in expelling from the primary membership of the party for 6 years the three ministers who had earlier resigned from the ministry. The meeting was attended by 10 out of the total 15 members.

The state finance minister, Mr Balwant Singh, has alleged that the aim in the formation of a separate group of the Akali Dal members in the state assembly is only to capture power through undemocratic means. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today he appealed to the dissident legislators to return to the folds of the parent body. He claimed that eight legislators out of the 27 whose names figure in the separate group recognized by the speaker had since met the chief minister, Mr Barnala, and extended full support to him. However, he refused to divulge their names.

The former chief of the SGPC, Mr G.S. Tohra, has extended full support to the separate group of Akali Dal legilators. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh he said there are some basic issues involved in the formation of the group and this cannot be called personal. Mr Tohra blamed Mr Barnala for undertaking the action in the Golden Temple complex without taking his cabinet colleagues or members of the party working committee into confidence.

Meanwhile, two suspected terrorists were arrested by the police in Moga today. Police sources said some arms and ammunition were recovered from their possession. Two persons, who were shot at by terrorists near Tarn Taran on 29th of last month, died in a hospital in Amritsar today.

Sikh Factions Clash Outside Temple

BK110844 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] In Punjab police burst tear gas shells to break up a clash between two groups outside the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar this morning. According to reports reaching Chandigarh, the clash took place between the supporters of rival Akali groups.

Barnala Resignation Sought

BK111603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has said the call for the gherao [surround] Amritsar City given by the Akali Dal led by Mr Joginder Singh and a faction of the All India Sikh Students Federation today did not evoke any response. He said about 150 to 20 youths who collected at some entry points to the city dispersed voluntarily after some time.

Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh this evening, he said his conscience is clear and he has committed no wrong by sending the police to flush terrorists, anti-national and anti-Panthic [Sikh] forces from the Golden Temple complex. Mr Barnala said the action has enabled [Akali Dal dissident leader] Mr Badal and other dissident leaders to visit the Golden Temple today. He said otherwise these leaders could not do so for months together.

The dissident Akali Dal leaders have sought the resignation of the Punjab chief minister and party president, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, on moral grounds. Addressing a press conference in Amritsar soon after the visit to the Golden Temple, they ruled out any unconditional patchup with Mr Barnala. Those who spoke at the conference were the former chief minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal; the former Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee president, Mr G.S. Tohra, and the former ministers, Mr Sukhjinder Singh and Mr Amrinder Singh.

Opposition MP's Tour Punjab

BK111607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] A group of opposition members of parliament from various parts of the country visited some areas of Punjab — including Amritsar — during the last few days. Speaking to newsmen in Chandigarh, the leader of the group, Mr Chitta Basu, Forward Block, said the members did not find any communal tension or ill feeling between different communities anywhere in the state. He said the group visited mostly the places which recently witnessed terrorist activities. The people of these places said different communities have been living together for centuries and will continue to do so without any fear. Mr Basu said the group felt that an educative mass campaign should be launched in the state.

The members called on the Punjab chief minister today and suggested the formation of all party peace committees at different levels. The group, apart from Mr Chitta Basu, comprised Mr Surya Prasad, CPI; Mr Saifuddin Chaudhury, CPI-M; and Mr (Kishore Tidake), Revolutionary Socialist Party. Two other MP's, who are members of the group but were not present at the press conference, are Mr Indrajit Gupta and Mr Sarad Dev, Janata.

3 Killed in 'Terrorist' Shoot-Out

BK120355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Three persons have been killed and many injured in the incidents of terrorist violence in Amritsar and Kapurthala Districts in Punjab since last evening. Two persons were killed and three injured when terrorists opened fire in the grain market at Navshahra Panwan. In another incident, one person was shot dead by some armed youths in a village to the raising of secessionist slogans by the culprits. At Sultanpur Lodhi in Kapurthala one police constable was injured when two suspected terrorists fired at a police patrol party last night.

Curfew Imposed on Nasik City Following Violence

BK101557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1544 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] A message just received from our Bombay correspondent says curfew has been imposed on some parts of Nasik City from

sunset today till 0900 [0330 GMT] tomorrow following incidents of stone throwing, arson and looting.

Further Details

BK110338 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] In Maharashtra 7 persons have been killed and 21 injured in Nasik City and 2 killed in Tanvel in Raigarh District following clashes between two groups of people since last evening. Stone throwing by some miscreants at a procession taken out earlier sparked off the trouble. The police had to resort to lathi [baton] charge, tear gas and finally to firing to disperse the violent mob.

Curfew has been clamped on some parts of Nasik City and Tanvel till 0930 this morning. The police control room told our Bombay correspondent that the situation is tense but under control.

'Pakistani Intruders' Shot at Border 9 May

BK101353 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Two intruders were shot dead by a BSF [Border Security Force] patrolling party when they tried to sneak into India from Pakistan in Anupgarh sector of Ganganagar District in Rajasthan yesterday. According to police sources, one of their associates escaped to Pakistan under the cover of darkness.

Bangladesh Agrees To Take Back Tribal Refugees

BK091619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Bangladesh has agreed to take back nearly 5,600 tribal refugees who are now in three refugee camps in Tripura. This was decided at a flag meeting of the commanders of the Bangladesh Rifles and the Border Security Force held at the (Jaloya) border.

Curfew on Karachi Areas 'Until Further Notice'
BK110230 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] According to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, the deputy commissioner of Karachi West has imposed a curfew in four police station areas from midnight last night until further notice. The police station areas under curfew are: Gul Bahar, Orangi Town, Orangi Town Extension and Liaqat Abad.

KYODO: Further Details
OW120009 Tokyo KYODO in English 0001 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 11, KYODO — Civil authorities in Karachi have called in the Army after two days of street fighting following the death of a youth under a speeding bus. A curfew was imposed Saturday in the Gul Bahar, Orangi, Liaqat Abad and Orangi town extension areas.

Reports Sunday indicated that the rioting had taken on an ethnic tinge, with border-area Pathans fighting Biharis repatriated from Bangladesh.

Police also arrested a member of the National Assembly, Afaq Shahid, in Karachi early Sunday. He had been on a two-day hunger strike to press for the repatriation of nearly 300,000 Biharis still in Bangladesh.

Afaq and seven others went on the hunger strike after President General Ziaul Haq told a British newspaper that his government was willing to grant citizenship to three million Afghan refugees taking shelter in Pakistan.

'Marginal Progress' at Afghan Talks Reported
BK100533 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] The seventh round of indirect talks on Afghanistan now under way in Geneva was adjourned this evening for the weekend after achieving marginal progress on certain minor issues. A spokesman of the Pakistan delegation said after the meeting that some differences had been ironed out, but these pertained to very minor considerations. The two sides were still engaged in a study and examination of the revised draft of the fourth instrument of the proposed package settlement. Both Pakistan and the representatives of the Kabul regime had given their comments on the revised fourth instrument to the UN mediator, the secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Cordovez, who was overseeing the talks. He said whereas Pakistan had given a comprehensive response to revised draft, the reaction of the Soviet-backed Afghan regime was coming in such slow bits that the overall progress of the negotiations had been (?affected by the negotiations) which were originally scheduled for 2 weeks have now been extended for another 7 days.

The Pakistan spokesman said that the sequence of the talks during the seventh round had been such that two sides will start discussion on more difficult elements of the revised draft from next week. The negotiations on the timeframe for a Soviet withdrawal, it is understood, would come only after the text of the fourth instrument had been broadly agreed to. The spokesman said that presently the talks were being held on the principle leading to a timeframe for the withdrawal of the foreign troops from Afghanistan and not on the timeframe itself which had been wrongly suggested by a section of the press. He said certain important articles of the revised fourth instrument remained to be negotiated during the next week and a timeframe for the withdrawal of the foreign troops could be reasonably expected only if there was an agreement on them. As such the negotiations during the next week were very crucial. He said Pakistan had shown a positive and flexible approach during the negotiations, but unfortunately the representatives of the Kabul regime had not been responding in the same manner.

Foreign Office Spokesman on Dates for Siachen Talks
BK111540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] A Foreign Office spokeman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan is considering the new date for the second round of talks with India on the Siachen Glacier issue. The spokesman made this observation while commenting on a PTI report on the date for the second round of talks between the defense secretaries of the two countries.

He said the actual position is that in the 1st week of April India had proposed two dates — 16-20 April or 20-22 May — and Pakistan had accepted the second, that is 20-22 May. India has, however, requested a postponement of this round of talks and proposed new dates, which are being considered, the spokesman added.

Prime Minister Speaks on Elections, Parties
BK100445 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said that his government is fully committed to complete the mandate of serving the nation given to it by the masses in the last general elections which were totally free and fair. He was talking to editors of newspapers from all over the country in Rawalpindi yesterday. Under this mandate, the prime minister said, the government would complete its tenure up to 1990 to serve the people for which it has prepared a comprehensive program of socioeconomic progress.

When asked to comment on the demand of a leader of a political party to fix the date for fresh elections, the prime minister said he sees no reason for holding fresh elections. He said the people are with the present elected government. They participated in the elections so that their elected representatives and governments at the center and in the provinces would serve them with complete confidence and trust. He added that his government has outlined a clear program for the welfare of the people which it is determined to carry out during its tenure.

The prime minister said his government is not afraid of challenges from any quarter. Mere rallies and processions do not

prove the people's support for any party. The prime minister said his government has given full liberty to the political parties to go to the people to present their viewpoint. The press is also functioning freely. Each political party is openly presenting its own ideals and program, but they were not presenting any justification for holding fresh elections in the country. He added that these parties have nothing concrete to present to the people, nor do they have any issue which can form a basis for providing any excuses to the people.

The prime minister said his government believes in democracy, but there is a limit to everything. We cannot allow political activities at [words indistinct] of our government.

The prime minister said all political parties should realize that political institutions can develop only when everybody follows political rules and principles. He said everybody should adopt a positive and constructive attitude. Mohammad Khan Junejo said the current political independence in the country has also been commended in foreign countries.

The prime minister said comprehensive legislation will be formed to institutionalize the political parties' performance. He added that he has asked the Law Ministry to prepare legislation under which only those political parties that respect the law will be allowed to function and continue their political activities. However, at present all political parties, whether they are registered or not, are functioning without any restriction because this is a preliminary stage. On the occasion of the next general elections these parties performance will be institutionalized according to the law.

Answering a question about the formation of a party by members elected to the assemblies on a non-party basis, the prime minister said the parliamentary system cannot function without political parties. That is why the Muslim League has been formed, so that government and assembly tasks are coordinated. He said the Muslim League is being reconstructed and on the completion of this task, party elections will be held at all levels because successful implementation of his 5-point socioeconomic program mostly depends on a strong party whose roots are with the people.

The prime minister referred to the mass literacy program which forms part of his 5-point program and said 5 billion rupees collected from the (?lottery) surcharge would be utilized. A comprehensive program is being prepared in this connection which will be announced shortly.

About activities of bandits in various parts of Sind, the prime minister said the provincial government is taking effective steps in this connection and results will be seen in a few weeks.

The prime minister expressed his firm belief for the independence of the judiciary and said since the lifting of martial law it has full independence under the Constitution.

About the reduction of oil prices, the prime minister said Federal Finance Minister Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Wattoo has been asked to assess the situation and present a report on what concessions can be given to consumers in this connection.

The prime minister said the Federal Law Ministry has been told to prepare a draft amendment to Provision 499 of the Pakistan penal code. He added that if possible under the law this draft legislation will be presented during the next budget session of the National Assembly.

About normalization of relations with India, he said it was being given due consideration. He recounted steps taken in this connection and said Pakistan for its part is keen to improve relations with India.

The editors commended the civilian government's decision to give complete freedom to political parties which is unprecedented in Pakistan's history. They said so far healthy and positive results have been achieved and the government has given proof of its magnanimity by allowing the political parties to go to the people. They said this will help in laying a strong foundation for democracy.

The federal information minister, Chaudhury Shujat Hussain; the information secretary, and other high officials of the Information Ministry were also present on the occasion.

KYODO: Prime Minister Facing Disqualification

OW120842 Tokyo KYODO in English 0814 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 12, KYODO — Pakistan's Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and a large number of his supporters in the national and provincial assemblies are facing possible disqualification for allegedly violating a law on political parties.

Chief election commissioner Justice S.A. Nusrat was reported by the mass circulation newspaper *JUNG* Monday as saying that Junejo would be issued with a notice within a week to defend himself on a reference by two members of the assembly seeking his disqualification for breaching the Political Parties Act, 1985. The act bars members of the assembly elected on a nonparty basis from joining an unregistered party, and says they must give up their seat if they do so.

If the argument put forward by the two members of the National Assembly is upheld by the chief Election Commission, it could plunge Pakistan into a major constitutional crisis.

The two men, independent parliamentary group leader Haji Saifullah and member from Mianwali Sher Afghan, said in their disqualification resolution that Junejo and his supporters in the National Assembly revived the Pakistan Muslim League early this month, electing Junejo as its president, and only afterward sought its registration with the Election Commission.

Junejo, a veteran Muslim League member and agriculturist from Sind, was nominated prime minister in March last year by President General Ziaul Haq, after an election to the 237-member National Assembly in partyless polls. He revived political parties against the wishes of Gen. Zia, who has always mantained that there is no room for political parties in an Islamic society.

There have been sporadic reports during recent months about differences between Gen. Zia, who has ruled Pakistan for eight years, and Junejo, with whom he now shares power. Only last week Gen. Zia told a British newspaper that there was possibility of reimposing martial law, which he lifted in March 1985, if the political agitation by opposition leader Benazir Bhutto grows violent. Junejo publicly said the following day that there were no grounds for reimposing martial law, a position echoed by Bhutto, the leader of the Pakistan People's Party.

The Election Commission Sunday issued a notice to Sind chief minister Ghaus Ali Shah and his 45 supporters on similar grounds. Shah, a retired judge, faces additional disqualification moves as government servants are required to complete two years of retirement before engaging in politics.

Nusrat was quoted by *JUNG* as saying that Junejo and the others involved would be required to furnish a reply within 10 days after the issue of the notice, otherwise the commission would take unilateral action.

The newspaper also reported in another story Monday that Gen. Zia held a lengthy meeting Sunday with former industries minister Elahi Bakhsh Soomro, an aspirant for the premiership. Details of the meeting were not avilable.

Reportage on Visit by Libyan Envoy Al-Ubaydi

Meets With Zia 9 May

BK091622 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] The former Libyan Foreign Minister, 'Abd al-Ati al-'Ubaydi, met with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi today and apprised him of the developments in the Mediterranean Ocean region. The Pakistani foreign secretary and the Libyan ambassador to Pakistan were also present on the occasion.

Meets With Junejo 10 May

BK101547 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhdhafi's special emissary, 'Abd al-Ati al-Ubaydi, called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi today. He was with the prime minister for some time and apprised him of the current situation in the Mediterranean region. The special emissary thanked the prime minister for the support of the people and the Government of Pakistan against the use of power by the United States.

Thanks Pakistan for Support

BK100317 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Special emissary of Libyan leader Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi, 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, has said the government and people of Libya appreciate Pakistan's support for Libya against the American attack.

Addressing a news conference in Islamabad, he said Libya is grateful to Pakistan for supporting it in a time of crisis. He said he called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq to deliver a message from President [as heard] Al-Qadhdhafi and thank Pakistan for its stand. He said he had come to consult with Pakistani brethren on the situation arising out of the American attack and explain the Libyan stand. He strongly denied that Libya is involved in any type of terrorism.

Continuing Reportage on Mujahidin Operations in DRA

Killings in Konduz

BK091027 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the Soviet-Kabul troops early last month attacked various villages in Dasht-e Archi area of Konduz Province and started mass killing. Nearly 600 people, including 86 children and women, were reported killed. Their houses were destroyed and wheat crops and shops set on fire. At one place, the mujahidin put up resistance and damaged two tanks and an Army vehicle. They also shot down two planes in Zhawar area.

Refugee Camp Bombed

BK091716 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Nine Afghan refugees were killed when six Afghan aircraft bombed a refugee camp in Teri Mangal near Parachinar yesterday. A number of people were injured during the air raid.

Fighting in Provinces

BK110244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say there had been fierce fighting between the Kabul forces and the mujahidin in the Lowgar valley south of Kabul. The Kabul forces are backed by the Soviet Union. The mujahidin are also reported to have attacked a military convoy at Tangay on the Kabul-Qandahar Highway. The mujahidin also damaged a tank and several vehicles. According to reports the Afghan mujahidin have also started ambushes in Ghazni, Qandahar, Kabul, Konarha, and Parvan Provinces.

'Heavy' Soviet-DRA Losses

BK120318 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Reports have come in about several clashes between mujahidin and Soviet-Kabul forces. Mujahidin inflicted heavy loss of life and property on Soviet-Kabul forces in their attack on two military posts in Herat Province. Twenty tanks were damaged in this attack. Another report says mujahidin attacked a

Soviet convoy going toward Herat City recently, killing at least 30 soldiers and damaging 6 tanks.

Yet another report says mujahidin shot down three fighter planes and damaged two in combat with Soviet-Kabul forces in the Zhawar seize in Paktia Province on 9 May. The pilots and crew of these planes were killed.

In another clash in Daman subdivision of Qandahar, more than 50 Soviet-Kabul soldiers were killed, whereas 20 mujahidin were martyred.

Mujahidin Reportedly Down Bomber

BK120628 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin shot down a bomber of the Kabul administration that was about to carry out an air raid on their positions in Chamkani area in Paktia Province. Reports have also come in about continued fierce fighting between mujahidin and Soviet-Kabul forces near Kabul city. Another report says mujahidin inflicted heavy loss of life and property to Soviet-Kabul forces during a fight in Lowgar.

SRI LANKA

AFP: President Appeals to West for Arms

HK110334 Hong Kong AFP in English 0327 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] London, May 11 (AFP) — Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, in an interview published here Sunday, appealed urgently to the West for arms, money and moral support to fight the separatist Tamils, saying his country otherwise could end up "divided like Cyprus".

Cyprus has been divided between Greek and Tyrkish Cypriots for the past 11 years, with Turkish-Cypriots controlling the northern 40 per cent of the island state since an invasion by troops from Turkey.

Mr Jayewardene told *THE SUNDAY TIMES* newspaper that after recent terrorist attacks in Colombo, his patience was almost exhausted. On May 3, an Air Lanka jet was bombed at Colombo Airport, killing 17 people. Tamil militants campaigning for an independent state in the north and east were believed responsible for the blast, which tore apart the airliner.

"I have to have a quick solution to this problem now," Mr Jayewardene said. "I still have some optimism that the Tamil leaders will accept the proposals we have offered for a limited degree of federation for the northern eastern provinces, but I must warn everyone that if the proposals are rejected, then we will have no option but to go for a military solution."

The Sri Lankan president, who is 79, said he feared that after a few years of terrorism, his country could become "divided like Cyprus."

He called for aid from Western nations and urged them to pressure Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to end his alleged support for Tamil separatists.

Security Minister Asks For Increased Vigilance

BK101143 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] The terrorists, who lack the stance for a direct confrontation with the Armed Forces, are now adopting a new strategy of exploding bombs in places frequented by the public.

Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali has, therefore, warned the people of the possibility of more terrorist attacks and called on them to be more vigilant. Addressing a meeting at Mihintela yesterday, Mr Athulathmudali appealed to the people to bring any suspicious looking object to the notice of the police.

Meanwhile, extra security precautions have been imposed at government and private buildings. Bomb disposal experts rushed to a building housing Air Lanka headquarters and other Government offices in Colombo yesterday and workers were evacuated following a telephone bomb threat, but no devices found.

LANKA PUWATH said that the government has sought the cooperation and assistance of the International Police Organization — Interpol — in the investigation of the bombing of the Air Lanka Tristar at Katukanyaka last Saturday.

Criticizes TULF Economic Campaign

BK111154 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Senior officials of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] are now campaigning to weaken Sri Lanka's national economy without a heed to the consequences such action will bring upon the people of all communities. According to the minister of national security, the terrorists also wanted to create such a situation to continue with their campaign of terror.

A few hours after the bomb blast at the CTO [Central Telegraph Office] building in Colombo, which claimed 13 innocent lives, the president of the TULF, M. Sivasithamparam, had told in a television interview with ITV [Independent Television] Channel 4 that where they are concerned they have decided to go in their own way struggling to rewin their rights. He said that already the economy is in the doldrums. A similar statement was issued to a Swedish newspaper by the secretary general of the front, A. Amirthalingam, a few hours after the Air Lanka bomb blast at Katunayake on the 3d of May. Mr Amirthalingam is reported to have said among other things that tourists should not visit Sri Lanka and warned that there may be other bomb explosions. The ministry notes that it becomes obvious that the TULF, therefore, wants to paralyze the tourist industry and in effect damage the sources of foreign exchange earnings.

In a well-orchestrated campaign for Eelam, the terrorists, meanwhile, are placing bombs in the vital sections of transport and communication. The TULF and other Eelam campaigners who are also suggesting cuts in foreign aid seem blind to the fact that any reduction in foreign exchange earnings will go against the Sinhalese as well as the Tamils who are engaged in the various sectors of the economy. About 50 percent of Sri Lankan Tamils live outside the northern province and their livelihood also depends on the proper functioning of the economy.

The national security minister notes that it is a pity that the TULF leaders, terrorist leaders, and Eelam activities advocated and promote measures which affect the lives of so many Tamils living in Sri Lanka while they themselves lead a life of luxury outside the island.

Security Tightened 'Throughout Country'

BK111222 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, has said that terrorism in Sri Lanka has entered a new phase and the people have to be more alert as the terrorists were now going on the rampage killing innocent people. Mr Thulathmudali said that the terrorists were now attempting to involve the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [Marxist Political Party] which in 1971

killed police officers and not innocent people like the terrorists do today.

Meanwhile, security throughout the country has been strengthened and the police are checking persons carrying parcels. The government ministries, departments, corporations, banks, hotels, and other merchantile firms have also tightened security. Some leading hotels in Colombo are using metal detectors to check on persons entering hotels.

TELO Group Confirms Death of Its Leader

BK091425 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] The Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, TELO, confirmed in Madras yesterday the death of its leader, Sri Sabaratnam, at the hands of another terrorist group — the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE.

The PRESS TRUST of INDIA quoting TELO spokesman said that according to information received by his organization, Sabaratnam, aged 34, had been killed in an LTTE attack on his hideout at Kundagal near Jaffna on Tuesday. He said that the TELO group will not be subdued by the LTTE tactics.

Meanwhile, an agency report from Madras said that the office of the TELO terrorist organization has been destroyed by a gunman from the rival Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The agency quoted an eyewitness as saying that the LTTE raided the Madras office of TELO during a predawn attack yesterday.

The Madras police chief, Walter Dewaram, said that investigations are now underway into the attack on the TELO office.

Clashes Between Rival Tamil Groups Cited

BK121142 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Velupillai Prabhakaran, who runs the main Marxist-oriented separatist terrorist hit-squads in Sri Lanka which eliminated Sri Sabaratnam, the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization leader a few days ago, has now turned his guns on Uma Maheshwaran, the leader of the People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam [PLOTE].

Reports indicate that the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leader is waging a ruthless campaign to become the undisputed terrorist leader in this country.

Intelligence sources told LANKA PUWATH that Prabhakaran's gang of LTTE terrorists attacked a PLOTE gang at Velvettiturai and Point Pedro in the north yesterday capturing seven members of PLOTE and their weapons. The fallen terrorists were carrying two rifles and a submachine gun.

The PLOTE gang of terrorists were in the process of distributing leaflets among the villagers when they were captured.

Further Reportage on Bombing of Air Lanka Plane

5 Tamils Arrested

BK101344 Hong Kong AFP in English 0717 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 10 (AFP) — Police have arrested five Tamils in connection with the bombing of an Air Lanka jetliner a week ago at Colombo Airport as the death toll from the blast rose to 17, officials said Saturday. Police Chief Cyril Herath said that some of the arrested worked in the Customs Department.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said the arrested would appear in court next week. They are expected to be indicted within two weeks, reliable sources said. Some have reportedly confessed to involvement in the bombing, but their exact roles were not disclosed.

Tamil militants campaigning for an independent state in the north and east are strongly believed to have been responsible for the blast which tore apart the Lockheed Tristar.

One of the passengers aboard the plane, which had been scheduled to fly to the Maldives, died Friday, bringing the toll from the explosion to 17, Air Lanka Chairman Rakkhita Wikramanayake said. She was identified as Hanna Mahmud, the new wife of the first secretary of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Maldives who was expecting her first child.

The jetliner, which had arrived from London via Zurich and Dubai, was preparing to leave for the Maldives with tourists mainly from Europe and Japan when the bomb went off. It was believed to have been planted in cargo signed to the fictitious addressee in the Maldives. Investigators also found that the name listed as the sender was bogus.

Well-informed sources said that the police had yet to track down the masterminds of the bomb attack. They said that some now suspect it was a joint operation between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Tamil Eelam Army (TEA), two militant separatist groups. An intercepted radio conversation between an LTTE base in Madras, southern India, and one in the northern Sri Lanka capital of Jaffna suggested that it was the work of the local LTTE, the sources said. But they said that further analysis and another intercepted message suggested that it might have been planned by Thambapillai Maheswaran, an engineer who heads the TEA. The group said last year that it had poisoned Sri Lankan tea exports, but the claim was found to be false.

A world renowned expert on airline explosions, Eric Newton of Britain, arrived here Saturday to investigate the blast, sources said.

Meanwhile, a man was produced in court and remanded in connection with a bombing in the heart of Colombo on Wednesday which killed 12 people and wounded about 115 others in the government telecommunication complex. There was no indication what involvement the Sinhalese man might have had with the bombing, which is also believed to be the work of Tamil militants.

Further Details on Arrests

BK111225 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Police have arrested five persons in connection with the bombing of the Air Lanka jetliner 8 days ago in which 16 passengers and an airline steward died. Police chief Cyril Herath confirmed that five persons, all Tamils, have been taken into custody. He declined to disclose details because of the ongoing investigations. Well-informed sources told that some of the arrested are from the Customs Department, underscoring initial speculation that the bomb had been planted on board the Lockheed Tristar with inside assistance. The five now in detention will be produced in court this week. Some analysts also believe that the bombing operation was the work of two groups — the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE, and the Tamil Eelam Army, TEA. A subsequent message between Madras and a Jaffna LTTE base has buttressed this analysis that the TEA appeared to have planned and executed the operation with the knowledge and support of the LTTE. Panaguda Maheshwaran is an engineer by profession and it is strongly suspected that the style of the operation has his hallmark. It might be recalled that TEA last year threatened to poison Sri Lanka's tea exports forcing exporters to take several precautionary measures.

Meanwhile, the internationally renowned British expert of the airline explosion, Eric Newton, arrived in Colombo yesterday to investigate the Air Lanka Blast. He is expected to be here for a week to 10 days.

Tamil Reportedly Confesses

BK120445 Hong Kong AFP in English 0434 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, May 12 (AFP) — A Tamil arrested in connection with the May 3 bombing of a jetliner at Colombo's International Airport which killed 17 people has allegedly confessed to planting the bomb, reliable sources said Monday.

The man, who worked for the Customs Department, is alleged to have planted the bomb in a cargo of tea consigned to the Maldives, the sources said. He is understood to have said he did it on behalf of the Tamil Eelam Army (TEA), one of several militant groups campaigning for an independent state in the north and east of the country, the sources said. They declined to disclose his name or when he was arrested, but said he was one of five Tamil's arrested in connection with the blast. The five are expected to be produced in court this week, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said earlier.

Further Reportage on Bombing at Telegraph Office

LTTE Blamed

BK091426 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] The Sri Lanka Government has termed the reported claim by an outlawed Sinhalese extremist group — Janata Vimukhthi Peramuna — of yesterday's blast at Colombo's Central Telegraph Office as a clever trick by Eelam terrorists. A communique from the National Security Ministry reiterated the government's belief that the blast was the handy work of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] who, the government claimed, is determined to impede any negotiated settlement to the ethnic problem.

Experts Rule Out Terrorism in Dam Disaster

BK091340 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Investigations into the Kantalai disaster have established that the gradual erosion of cement and lime masonry used in the construction of the dam caused the breach. The study was conducted by two British experts, Dr (Paulback), and (Derek Eunight), whose services were funded by the British Government. The report was handed over yesterday to the acting minister of land and land development, A.M.S. Adhikari.

According to the British experts, the Kantalai tank constructed by King [name indistinct] over 1,300 years ago is still sound in many aspects. However, they said the subsequent construction of a pump house in the vicinity of the sluice could have contributed to the breach of the dam. The reports says there is no evidence to link disaster at Kantalai to terrorist action. The experts were of the opinion that maintenance work had been undertaken in a proper manner.

SUN Publishes Proposals for Resolving Ethnic Issue

BK081506 Colombo SUN in English 3 May 86 p 1, 9

[By *SUN* political correspondent]

[Text] The Government has told India that it is prepared to make constitutional amendments to give effect to the union territories system of administration contained in the Constitution of India, but declared it would not agree to any constitutional amendment requiring approval by a referendum.

The Government's position is spelt out in an aide memoire Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed handed over to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi last month. This two-page document dated April 4, 1986 contains Sri Lanka's new proposals to end the Tamil ethnic conflict. It forms the basis on which a four-member Indian delegation headed by P. Chidambaram, Minister of State for Personnel Public Grievances and Pensions, has been having three days of talks with Government and Opposition leaders.

Accompanying the two-page aide memoire is a six-page annexure quoting relevant provisions of the Sri Lanka Constitution and extracts from an Address to Parliament on February 9, 1983, by President J.R. Jayewardene. Here is the full text of the aide memoire:

The Sri Lanka Government has consistently been desirous of achieving a negotiated political settlement. The Sri Lanka government is prepared to re-examine the proposals contained in Annexure "C" and to adapt these in the light of recent suggestions regarding the suitability of a structure similar to the Union

Territories system of administration contained in the constitution of India. While being prepared to make constitutional amendments to give effect to such a system, the Sri Lankan Government would not agree to any constitutional amendment requiring approval by a referendum.

The provisions of the Draft Accord of August 1985 are substantially based upon the proposals containing in Annexure "C", except that the unit of devolution is designated as "Provincial Council" in the Draft Accord instead of "Regional Council" as in Annexure "C".

Two two subjects which are yet controversial are:
1. Internal law and order, and
2. Land.

In regard to internal law and order, the Sri Lanka Government is prepared to pursue discussions along the concept of autonomous provincial police stations within the organisation of the Sri Lanka Police Force as has been suggested to it in the informal discussions that took place in Colombo in January 1986. Notes of these discussions have been handed over to J. Dixit, Indian High Commisioner, and R. Bhandari by Bernard Tilakaratna.

In regard to the subject of land, the Sri Lanka Government draws attention to the provisions of paragraphs 5 and 11 of Annexure "C" and the provisions of the Draft Accord. The Sri Lanka Government is prepared to consider the subject of land as one which can satisfactority be dealt with by using the concept of a "Concurrent List" as in the constitution of India and other constitutions.

A greater degree of devolution can be provided in respect of schemes other than those designated as major or national schemes.

The Government of Sri Lanka is prepared to set up a National Land Commission and forms of judicial inquiry to deal with any disputes relating to land policy and land settlement.

The Sri Lanka Government stands by the proposals made by J.R. Jayewardene, President of Sri Lanka, on earlier occasions, including the proposals made to the All Party Conference in December 1984 which represented the views of the majority of the delegations, and the Draft Accord and the clarifications made thereafter.

The Sri Lanka Government draws attention to the Draft Accord of August 1985 and the clarifications made thereafter. The governments of Sri Lanka and India accepted the Draft Accord as a basis for further negotiations towards a mutually agreed accord by the parties concerned. Unfortunately the TULF response which came nearly four months later was almost wholly unrelated to the Draft Accord.

However, the Sri Lanka Government because of its earnest desire to reach a negotiated settlement, is prepared to examine those aspects of the TULF proposals which do not involve an amendment to the Sri Lanka constitution of such a character as would require a referendum.

The Sri Lanka Government proposals, as agreed and accepted, have been within the context of the unity, sovereignty, integrity and unitary character of the constitution of Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lanka Government will continue to implement the provisions relating to language in the constitution which provide that Sinhala be the Official Language, and Sinhala and Tamil the national languages of Sri Lanka. The relevant provisions of the Constitution are annexed to this aide memoire.

With regard to the English language the Sri Lanka Government is prepared to implement the proposals contained in the address of President Jayewardene to Parliament of ninth February 1983.

The visiting Indian delegation yesterday met Ceylon Workers Congress [CWC] leader and Rural Industrial Development Minister Savumyamoorthy Thondaman at a 55 minute session.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting Mr. Thondaman said "this round of talks has not so far had much success or progress but many more meetings are scheduled and I am confident that a result will be seen soon." He said the Indian delegation had discussed with him matters relating to the proposals the CWC placed before the now defunct all-party conference.

He said "the Indian delegation holds the view that if after the clarifications are over, the present set of proposals fail to meet expectations, the CWC proposals may be considered.

Prime Minister Premadasa Arrives in Turkey 1 May

For coverage of the visit to Turkey by Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, including his meeting with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and President Kenan Evren, see the Turkey section of the 6 May Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Khomeyni To Hold No Meetings During Ramadan

LD101053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the imam's secretariat has announced: As in past years the imam of the ummah will hold no private or announced meetings during the holy month of Ramadan.

Navy Warns U.S., France on Shipping Searches

LD121308 Tehran IRNA in English 1259 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran Monday warned the U.S. and France that it would encounter their warships if they interfere in Iranian inspection of cargo ships sailing the Persian Gulf. Iran's Navy Commander Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan said U.S. and French warships have been recently disturbing Iranian naval forces in their inspection of cargo ships, suspected of carrying goods for the Iraqi regime.

Naval forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran regularly inspect cargo ships suspected of carrying Iraqi-bound goods and seize any goods which may help the Iraqi war efforts.

Captain Malekzadegan said three U.S. and French missile launching warships including *David R. Ray* and *Y. Pearl*, equipped with helicopters were patroling near Iranian security zone.

In an interview with Tehran daily *ETTELA'AT* he said a U.S. naval fleet has been deployed in the Oman sea to supply American ships sailing in the Persian Gulf. Foreign warships sometimes escort commercial ships belonging to the southern Persian Gulf countries in a show of power, Malekzadegan said. "If the warships escort ships carrying goods for the Iraqi regime and Iran becomes assured that they are a threat to its interest, we will act firmly against them," he said. The navy commander warned the U.S. warships to avoid such measures in order to prevent any clashes. "Our warning is serious and has been announced to the U.S. fleet through various channels," he said.

Reportage on Visit by Libyan Oil Minister

Arrival in Tehran

LD091702 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 9, IRNA — Libya's Minister of Petroleum Fawzi al-Shakshuki arrived here Friday carrying a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi for his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i. He was welcomed by his Iranian counterpart Gholam Reza Aqazadeh at the airport.

During his visit, the Libyan minister will inform Iranian officials on viewpoints of the members of Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) in which session he had participated before his visit to Iran. On his visit to Saudi Arabia, Al-Shakshuki said he had discussed ways for increasing the oil price with Saudi officials.

Meanwhile, in a short interview Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh said as time passes it is gradually becoming clear that decisions taken in the last OPEC session had not been correct and that proposals of Iran, Libya and Algeria could safeguard interests of OPEC member states.

Received by Khamene'i

LD101229 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah oil minister, who is on a visit to Tehran at the head of a political delegation, this morning met and conferred with the president. At this meeting, which was also attended by Petroleum Minister Gholem Reza Aqazadeh and the Libyan Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Libyan oil minister conveyed a message from Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and also presented to the president a report on the results of his negotiations with Saudi officials concerning efforts to return to the original price of oil at a future OPEC meeting. Then Mr Khamene'i, reciprocating thanks for the Libyan leader's kind message, stressed the continuous contacts of OPEC members with each other in order to bring about further coordination. He said: We believe in joint struggle between countries that have both the motivation and courage to further our cause, and we declare our readiness for every kind of cooperation, just as we have in the past.

Pointing to the necessity for security of shipping in the Persian Gulf region, the president added: We wish to see the Persian Gulf region in a state of total security and see this region considered as a separate entity from the war region. Noting the plots of world arrogance aimed at lowering the price of oil and at bringing pressure upon OPEC countries, he remarked: The question of conspiracy against OPEC is a real war, and all things that are necessary for conducting a war must be prepared by us. In this respect, the things that are vital in this path are courage, alertness, and speed in action and cooperation between progressive forces who possess goals.

In conclusion the president stressed that the aim of all OPEC countries must be that of returning the price of oil to its original level and thanked Libya with regard to the oil question. He also emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran will stand beside its Libyan brothers in all events and issues.

Meets With Musavi

LD101738 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 10 May 86

[Excerpts] Tehran, May 10, IRNA — Visiting Libyan Petroleum Minister Fawzi al-Shakshuki met with President 'Ali Khamene'i and conveyed the Libyan leader's warm greetings to him, here Saturday.

Meanwhile in a separate meeting with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi here Saturday, Al-Shakshuki expressed thanks for Iranian officials' good will for stabilzing oil prices.

He also briefed the prime minister on efforts made by his country to this end and said the recent coordination has largely improved

world oil markets. He noted that an expanding cooperation would help the oil market further improve.

Musavi expressed hope that Iran's joint stance and cooperation with Libya and other friendly OPEC countries would cause oil prices to return to its previous levels and restore the denied rights of oil producing countries to them.

"We hope that those OPEC member countries which inspired by the U.S. have driven down oil prices and thereby prompted the outrage of their own nations and of other oil producing countries would review their stance and make good on their past wrong moves," he said.

On the importance of a permanent security in the Persian Gulf, Prime Minister Musavi emphasized, "We cannot remain silent vis-a-vis those countries which support the Iraqi regime by using the Persian Gulf waters but at the same time we do not seek to make it difficult for neutral countries."

Meets with Velayati

GF110514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Libyan Petroleum Minister Mr Fawzi al-Shakshuki, who is currently in Tehran, yesterday afternoon met with Mr Velayati, the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting the Libyan petroleum minister discussed the issues and latest developments in the region. He talked about and exchanged views on adopting a unified and coordinated effort to confront the plot of lowering the price of oil.

Our country's foreign minister then confirmed his remarks and said: Our cooperation with Libya in the political and petroleum arenas has had good progress. I hope this progress will also show in all economic and industrial areas.

Seen Off by Aqazadeh

LD111126 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Tehran, 11 May, IRNA — The Libyan Secretary of Planning Fawzi al-Shakshuki, who visited Tehran to deliver Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi's message to President Khamene'i, left Tehran this morning. He was seen off by the Iranian oil minister, Aqazadeh.

Before his departure he spoke to a correspondent of the Voice and Vision of Iran and reiterated his defense of the Iranian, Algerian, and Libyan proposal calling for restoring official OPEC prices and the 14 million barrel ceiling. Commenting on the withdrawal of U.S. oil companies from Libya, the Libyan petroleum secretary said: Their departure shall have no effect whatsoever in our operations. However, should they decide to continue their operation, then it goes without saying that we will honor our agreements with them.

Commenting on the same issue, Iranian Oil Minister Aqazadeh told our reporter: We have a number of experts in Libya who assist that country with its oil exploitation. If U.S. companies decide to leave Libya, then our experts will increase their assistance to Libya in its efforts to explore and produce oil.

Referring to the forthcoming OPEC session, Aqazadeh said: We do remain firm in our stance to restore official oil prices. If the previous session had adopted the decision to establish a 14 million barrel ceiling for OPEC production, then we would now be witnessing the restoration of $28 per barrel.

Syria's Al-Shar' Brings Message for Khamene'i

Greeted by Velayati

LD121056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Faruq al-Shar', Syrian minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a political delegation. He was welcomed by Foreign Minister Velayati. On his arrival in Tehran, he spoke to our correspondent about the objective of the trip, saying that he is to deliver a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to President Khamene'i on the recent regional developments as well as holding talks with Islamic Republic officials.

Meets Khamene'i, Others

JN121548 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Terhan — Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i this afternoon received Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' who handed him a message from President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the latest developments in the region. Attending the meeting were Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Syrian Ambassador in Tehran Ibrahim al-Yunis, and the director of the foreign minister's office, Walid al-Mu'allim.

Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi also received Al-Shar' today. During the meeting, talks dealt with bilateral relations and the situation in the region.

Following his arrival in Tehran this morning, Al-Shar' held talks with Dr Velayati during which they reviewed the current situation in the region and bilateral relations.

Musavi Meets Outgoing Cuban Ambassador

LD110900 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — The Cuban ambassador to Tehran, Luis Marisy Figueredo, bid farewell to Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Sunday at the end of his service in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting the Cuban ambassador reported to the prime minister of his four years of service and expressed interest of his country in further expansion of mutual relations. The prime minister praising services of the Cuban ambassador in deepening mutual relations between the two revolutionary countries hoped that the ties will grow further.

Activities of Muslim Revolutionaries in Iraq

LD101259 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] The news unit of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq reported that a group of Muslim revolutionary Iraqis on 7 April, the anniversary of the establishment of the 'Aflaqi Ba'thist Party, planted an incendiary bomb weighing 10 kg inside the Army Cultural Club in the officer's housing estate in Baghdad's Zayyuniyah region.

While retreating from this region, and in the process of clashes with the club's guards, this group succeeded in killing two military intelligence personnel of the Iraqi regime and injuring many others. However, the bomb was defused by experts before it exploded. In this clash one of the Muslim revolutionaries was wounded and captured but the rest of the group returned to base safely.

The report also states that one of the organizations of the military branch affiliated to the Al-'Amal al-Islami Organization of Iraq recently conducting some operations in the Sayyid Kan region in Iraq's Kurdestan Province of Iraq and succeeded in completely destroying an Iraqi army vehicle which was carrying military equipment to the battlefronts of the imposed war. As a result, three of the vehicle's crew were killed. The report further states that after this operation, a large number of organizations affiliated to the al-'Amal al-Islami Organization of Iraq succeeded in distributing and posting in the townships of Nasiriyah, Za'faraniyah and Al-Thawrah regions of Baghdad a large number of photographs and texts of speeches by Imam Khomeyni as well as placards carrying slogans such as: Death to Saddam; Victory to Islam; The war will not end while Saddam is still ruling over Iraq, and other slogans.

During these activities, members of the al-'Amal al-Islami Organization clashed with Iraqi Government forces, as a result of which brother fighter Abu Hasan Fadl was wounded and arrested. There is no information available concerning his fate.

The report also states that the al-'Amal al-Islami Organization of Iraq, while declaring that it was responsible for carrying out these crusading operations, stresses once again that it will carry on the armed jihad until the destruction of the Iraqi regime and the establishment of a government of divine justice.

Sham'Khani Appointed IRGC Ground Forces Commander

LD111329 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., May 11, IRNA — Acting Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) 'Ali Sham'khani was appointed as commander of the IRGC Ground Forces Sunday. The appointment was made by the IRGC Commander in Chief Mohsen Reza'i during a ceremony held in a headquarters in the southern fronts, attended by commanders of IRGC combat units.

Speaking to the gathering, Reza'i outlined the current trend of the Iraqi-imposed war, reasons of Iraqi air raids on Iranian residential areas and political as well as military impacts of the Iranian Val Fajr-8 offensive launched in Iraqi Al-Faw Peninsula on 9 February.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

'Over 100' Iraqi Casualties

LD091524 Tehran IRNA in English 1445 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 9, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran killed and wounded at least 100 Iraqi soldiers and captured some others in patrol operations in southern Majnun Island and in Hawr al-Huwayzah destroying three boats of the enemy as well as a number of their positions and fortifications, according to Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters.

The joint Army-IRGC Hqs said Iranian Muslim combatants suppressed the enemy's movements in Sharhani and Pich-e Angizeh regions demolishing a number of Iraqi tanks, personnel carriers as well as military hardware.

The Muslim forces of Iran Inflicted heavy losses on Iraqi Infantry Brigades 805, 44 and 442 of Division 20. In the course of the clash, scores of enemy soldiers were killed and wounded whose corpses remain in the operational region.

Iranian Havaniruz (Army Aviation service) helicopters hit and set ablaze Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers in a series of valiant air operations.

Communique No 2,465

LD091757 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 9, IRNA — A military communique published here Friday said that heavy clashes were going on in Pich-e Angizeh and Sharhani operational regions where Iranian Muslim combatants are maintaining the upper hand with enemy activity under control and still being subjected to heavy artillery barrages. Ten enemy soldiers were captured and an undetermined amount of damages and casualties inflicted on them. The clashes were said to be continuing.

Communique number 2465 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces also said that several Iraqi patrol units were reconnoitered in Nahr-Anbar and Chazzabeh operational regions and subjected to the fire of the Muslim forces of Iran. It added that the units were forced to flee, sustaining some damages and casualties.

Iranian Army aviation service helicopters attacked enemy armoured forces in Chananeh operational region and set ablaze a considerable number of Iraqi tanks at 13:00 hours local time (09:30 GMT) Thursday, throwing their organization into disarray the communique says. It added that a large number of the tanks crew were killed or wounded in the operation.

It furthermore says that Iranian fire checked increased Iraqi movements in Faqqeh and Chananeh operational regions on Thursday. In Nahr-Anbar and Yebis operational regions, Iran-

ian Muslim combatants checked engineering efforts of the enemy. Intruding enemy planes were repelled from Shalacheh region by Iranian anti-aircraft fire.

Muslim forces of Iran killed or wounded a considerable number of Iraqi forces in border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam demolishing heavy and light gun emplacements of the enemy. Four heavy vehicles of the enemy forces were also set ablaze, and efforts of enemy infantry and armoured units were halted. In Qasr-e Shirin, an Iraqi engineering unit was subjected to the fire of the Muslim forces of Iran and sustained some casualties.

In northwestern fronts, exchange of artillery fire was more intense in Sardasht operational region where the movements of Iraqi vehicles was halted especially in Chuman-Mostafa. In this front, it added, the Iraqi forces sustained damages and casualties while one base of theirs as well as six vehicles were smashed.

Iranian anti-aircraft fire prevented Iraqi warplanes from bombing Ziveh township in W. Azarbayjan Prov., Thursday, according to the Joint Staff. Meanwhile, the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, was subjected to enemy artillery fire Thursday, as a result of which some civilians were wounded.

Positions Inside Iraq Hit

LD100858 Tehran IRNA in English 0825 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 10, IRNA — Iranian fighter-bombers hit Iraqi positions inside Iraq, north west of Faqqeh, northwest of the border town of Bostan in Khuzestan Province (with coordinates of 32.19 north and 47.25 east) early Saturday morning inflicting casualties and damage on Iraqi troops, said the Joint Staff Headquarters in a statement. The Iranian aircraft returned safely to their bases after carrying out their mission, the statement added.

10 May Combat HQ Report

LD101114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] According to the latest report received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the combatants of Islam, in the operational sectors of Pich-e Angizah and Sharahani, continued to assault the enemy and to inflict heavy losses.

In last night's heavy battle further numbers of enemy troops were killed, bringing the total of enemy casualties in the victorious operations of yesterday and today to more than 3,000 killed or wounded. According to the same report, at 0540 today the pilots of the Army Aviation Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a successful operation, with a few bomber-fighter aircraft, bombed the assembly point of the armored forces of the Ba'thist army of Iraq in the northwest of Faqqeh at 32.19 north and 47.25 east, inside Iraqi territory. After setting ablaze the enemy positions and inflicting heavy losses on them, they returned safely to base.

Also, in the closing hours of yesterday, one helicopter gunship belonging to the Ba'thist enemy that intended to get close to the positions of our forces, turned into the target of the accurate fire of the combatants of Islam, and was downed in the operational sector. In the course of yesterday's operation, more than 200 tanks, personnel carriers and vehicles of the 'Aflaqi Iraqi regime's forces were made into the targets of the crushing fire of the brave anti-armored units fo the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps ground forces and the artillery and Army Aviation Force's fire and were destroyed.

Residential Attacks Protested

LD101652 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 10, IRNA — Iranian representative at the United Nations Friday submitted a note to the U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in relation with Iraq's escalating attacks upon residential and housing quarters in Iran.

The note mentioned recent Iraqi attacks on residential areas in Bakhtaran Province on Paril 29, which was 'informally' inspected by a U.N. Team pursuant to the Attacks. The inspection, the note said was informal because the Iraqi regime would not guarantee the safety of the U.N. team in the area.

The Iranian representative also called on the U.N. secretary general to publish the reports of the U.N. team which he said is evidence of Iraq's violation of international conventions and of the June 12, 1984 agreement between the two warring countries.

Iraqi planes hit a residential area in Bakhtaran, seat of Bakhtaran Province, and also Rahim-Abad village near the city on Tuesday 29, April, as a result of which one civilian was martyred and another 32 injured. Head of U.N. military ream in Iran inspected the bombed areas on May 6, in Rahim-Abad village and Tavon township of Bakhtaran Province which was devasted in Iraqi air raids.

On June 10, 1984, the Iraqi regime assured the United Nations secretary general that it would discontinue its attack on non-military targets in Iran. Since then Iraqi regime has repeatedly attacked Iranian cities and population centers.

Communique No 2,464

LD101735 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 10 IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed concentration center of Iraqi armoured units north of Faqqeh in Iraq at 32.19 north and 48.25 east coordinates, at 02:10 hours GMT Saturday inflicting substantial damage on them. The Iranian planes all returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique here Saturday.

The communique number 2464 released by the joint staff command of the Armed Forces says that Iranian naval forces intercepted and inspected four tankers and one commercial ship which were sailing under foreign flags in the Hormuz Strait Friday, but allowed them to continue their voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying military hardware for the Iraqi regime.

Iranian Muslim combatants smashed two Iraqi offensives launched in two points of the southern fronts Friday, killing or wounding a large number of Iraqi soldiers, and destroying 200 tanks and personnel carriers as well as several vehicles of theirs. During the operation one enemy helicopter was shot down and many Iraqi soldiers were captured and transferred behind the fronts, says the communique.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses during artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants. The communique says five Iraqi bunkers and observation posts together with several vehicles were demolished and a number of Iraqi soldiers killed or wounded in the western fronts Friday.

Some Iraqi boats trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in the Majnun Islands were forced to flee leaving behind killed Iraqi soldiers. Three Iraqi soldiers with their equipment were also captured according to the communique. Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire shelled the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, Friday.

According to the latest reports, Iranian fighter bombers pounded Iraqi armoured units in Faqqeh at 18:05 and 18:50 hours (14:35 and 15:20 GMT) Saturday. The planes all returned to their bases safely.

Commander on Faqqeh Victories

LD102218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 10 May 86

[Excerpt] Acting Commander of the Islamic Republic Ground Forces Colonel Jamali, has taken part in a press conference. Referring to the impressive operations and victories of the Islamic combatants in Faqqeh operational region, he said that these victories were monumental. He added: The ever-victorious Islamic Republic forces are closely monitoring all enemy movements and continue to inflict heavy blows on enemy forces.

Col Jamali, who was attending the press conference in the Faqqeh operational theatre, stated: The Iraqi Ba'thist -Zionist regime, in order to create spurious morale among the vanquished Iraqi forces and to please its reactionary benefactors, embarked on an operation in the area making use of forces from the 20th Division, 435 and 805 Brigades, the 44th Infantry Brigade, the 60th Composite Brigade, the (Hetkin) Commando Brigade, the 1st Presidential Brigade, and the 10th Iraqi Division. They were oblivious to the fact that they were being faced with the coordinated actions of the army of Islam, including those of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, or that they would be forced to retreat and then flee, while suffering heavy losses.

Commenting on the outcome of the operations, Col Jamali said: The counteroffensive launched by the enemy in the [Faqqeh] area resulted in heavy losses to the Iraqi forces. The Islamic Republic Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps units succeeded in putting out of action more than 3,000 enemy troops and capturing some enemy personnel.

Khatam HQ on Faqqeh Fighting

GF110504 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] According to the latest report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters, yesterday afternoon, at 1705 [1335 GMT] and 1850 [1510 GMT], the fast-flying eagles of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces carried out two successful missions in the Faqqeh area.

They heavily bombed armored troop concentrations of the aggressive Iraqi Army in this region. They set fire to their positions and inflicted heavy damage upon the Zionist enemy. According to this report, the brave Islamic pilots all returned safely to their bases after the operation.

Strategic Iraqi Bridge Bombed

LD110616 Tehran IRNA in English 0602 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — Iranian fighter-bombers hit an Iraqi strategic bridge in north of Zobeydah, in Faqqeh Region, Sunday morning. According to a Joint Staff communique released here, a number of Iranian fighter-bombers raided the bridge at 05:30 hours local time in north of Zobeydah (with coordinates 32.26 north and 47.10 east). The communique added that the Iranian war planes all returned to bases safely after carrying out their mission.

1,000 Iraqis Killed in Chemical Explosion

LD111039 Tehran IRNA in English 1022 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Al-Faw, May 11, IRNA — Some 1,000 Iraqi forces were killed and thousands of others were wounded when a large dump of chemical cartridges exploded east of Salt Lake in Al-Faw Peninsula on April 17, said an Iraqi officer who had recently sought asylum from Iran in Al-Faw region. He added that seven Iraqi divisions and brigades stationed in the east of the Salt Lake suffered heavy losses due to the spread of poisonous gas over the area.

The Iraqi officer who requested not to be identified for the security of his family, told IRNA that he was on leave when the incident happened triggered by the exchange of artillery fire between Islamic combatants of Iran and the Iraqi forces. The wind after the incident, spread the poisonous gas to several kilometers and caused the injury of more Iraqi forces.

He said that since he had been cooperating with combatant Muslim Iraqis including the Dawa party, Iraqi commanders were suspicious of him for having given the coordinates of the dump to the Iranian forces. Therefore, he said, he decided to seek asylum from the Islamic Republic of Iran. Meanwhile, an official at Hadhart Fatima field hospital in "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater said that on the day of explosion a number of Islamic forces of Iran were transferred to the field hospital due to being exposed to chemical substances. He said that it was strange to the officials of the hospital since the operational region was neither bombed nor shelled with chemical weapons.

Iraqi Counteroffensive Checked

LD111204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] According to a report by Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, following remarkable victories by the Islamic warriors in the operational area of Pich-e Angizeh, they were able to detect a counteroffensive launched by the Zionist enemy and, by engaging the enemy, checked the futile move of the Iraqi forces. The victorious Islamic forces, destroying more than 50 percent of the Iraqi 60th Infantry Brigade, killed a large number of them and captured some others. In the course of this engagement, an enemy helicopter was hit by the fire of the Islamic combatants and destroyed.

At 0530 hours (local) early this morning, a number of interceptor-bomber aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force, conducting a successful operation, bombed a supply and strategic bridge of the enemy, situated to the north of Zobeydah operational area at N 32 26 and E 27 10, and returned safely to their bases having inflicted heavy damage on the enemy forces.

Also, during the oeprations this morning, the Islamic warriors in Pich-e Angizeh region targeted 20 tanks and personnel carriers and a number of vehicles of the Ba'thist-Zionist reigme in Baghdad and destroyed them with their pounding fire.

Iraqi Infiltration Attempt Repulsed

LD111352 Tehran IRNA in English 1220 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 11, IRNA — Iranian Muslim combatants stationed on the Shur Shirin Heights repulsed an Iraqi infiltrative attempt over the past 24 hours killing 15 Iraqi soldiers and destroying several enemy vehicles. Meanwhile battle with heavy weapons continued in most parts of Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts raging more heavily in Sumar and Maymak.

Islamic forces killed over 35 Iraqi soldiers and destroyed 15 bunkers, five observation posts, one tank, one loader and two munitions dumps of Iraqi forces in these fronts, according to IRNA reports.

Communique No 2,467

LD111702 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — An invading Iraqi war plane was shot down by surface-to-air fire of Iranian Muslim combatants in the Persian Gulf at 14:10 hours (10:40 hours GMT) Sunday, according to a military communique here Sunday.

The joint staff communique number 2467 says that Iranian Muslim combatants in a successful mission blew up a newly-built Iraqi bridge in Yebis at 11:15 hours (07:45 hours GMT) Saturday and then returned to their base safely.

In Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts, the communique says, due to heavy artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions, 20 gun emplacements and observation posts together with one tank and one engineering vehicle were destroyed and a number of Iraqi soldiers killed or wounded. Two enemy munitions dumps were also set ablaze. Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the north-western fronts set fire to parts of their positions, and enemy vehicles and also to a munitions dump, according to the joint staff.

An Iraq infantry unit attempting to strengthen its positions in north of Qal'at Dizah was shelled and forced to flee by Iranian forces. The Iraqi troops also sustained some casualties, says the communique. Elsewhere in the southern fronts, Mulsim forces checked flights of Iraqi helicopters in Yebis and Nahr-Anbar and opened fire on an enemy column in Faqqeh.

Iraqis Diverting Attention From Defeat

LD111827 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — Iraqi army commanders have launched massive face-saving propaganda campaign in Iraq in a bid to divert attention from their defeats in Al-Faw, Iraqi POW Muhammad Yaqub confessed Sunday. Yaqub was taken captive in a repulsed Iraqi counter-offensive in Faqqeh operational region. "Whenever Iraqi forces attempted to attack Muslim combatants of Iran they met with heavy blows and subsequently sustained considerable damage and casualties" he said. The POW said that he and three others are the only survivors of the smashed Iraqi company.

12 May Khatam HQ Report

GF120522 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] According to the latest report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters, the Islamic forces, including the brave men of the 16th Armored Division of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed forces, the sacrificers of the 17th Division of 'Ali ibn 'Abi-Talib and the Sayyed ol-Shohada Brigade, and the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps continued their operations against the forces of the Zionist enemy in the Faqqeh operational area. They delivered heavy blows against the aggressive enemy. During their fighting with the Iraqi forces the Islamic forces, destroyed much light and heavy equipment and weaponry or took it intact as booty.

Also according to this report at 1530 [1200 GMT] yesterday the pilots of the air force of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces bombed the Zionist enemy's positions in the Faqqeh operational area and set fire to a large number of the aggressive enemy's equipment.